

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 09804 170500Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SYE-00 SSO-00 /013 W
-----061250 170502Z /10

O P 170417Z AUG 77
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6267
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 9804

DEPT FOR SY/OPS/T AND SY/FO; TAIPEI FOR MCPOLAND FROM OIC/RTC

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJECT: ACR AIR CONDITIONER PARTS

REF: (A) TAIPEI 4980 (B) TAIPEI 5000

1. ON AUGUST 1-3, THE OIC VISITED TAIPEI AND IS FAMILIAR WITH PROBLEMS SURROUNDING A MALFUNCTIONING AIR CONDITIONER FOR THE ACR; ALTHOUGH THIS OFFICER WAS NOT AWARE THAT THE UNIT HAD BEEN SERVICED OVER TWENTY TIMES WITHIN THE PAST TWO MONTHS. WHILE THERE, THE OIC DIAGNOSED THE PROBABLE CAUSE OF AN INTERMITTENTLY OPERATING COMPRESSOR AS EITHER A DEFECTIVE COMPRESSOR MAGNETIC CONTACTOR OR RBM RELAY CONTROL, WITH LESS EMPHASIS ON POSSIBLE DEFECTIVE CIRCUIT BREAKERS. THE OIC HAD HOPED TO MEET WITH SEABEES DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL WHO SERVICED THE UNIT, BUT THIS WAS NOT POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THEIR SERVICE DEMANDS IN THE AFTERMATH OF A SEVERE TYPHOON. BEFORE DEPARTING THE POST, HOWEVER, THE OIC ADVISED THE RSO OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED POSSIBLE MALFUNCTIONING PARTS AND ASKED THAT THEY BE REPLACED IF AVAILABLE IN TAIWAN. FYI THE SEABEES MOVED THE ENTIRE AC TO THEIR WORK FACILITY AND INSTALLED A NEW COMPRESSOR AND CLEANED AND RECHARGED THE SYSTEM. THE UNIT APPARENTLY RAN FULL TIME IN THEIR SHOP FOR
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SEVERAL DAYS WITHOUT ANY SYMPTOMS OF A MALFUNCTION. IT WAS ONLY AFTER REINSTALLING IT IN THE ACR PARENT ROOM THAT PROBLEMS REPORTEDLY DEVELOPED. THEREFORE, IT SEEMS REASONABLE THAT IF PROFESSIONAL ATTENTION WAS GIVEN TO THE UNIT IT SHOULD PERFORM SATISFACTORILY UNLESS ONE OR MORE OF THE ABOVE ITEMS ARE FAULTY.

2. THIS OFFICE REALIZES AND CAN FULLY APPRECIATE THE ANNOYANCES PRECIPITATED BY A MALFUNCTIONING ACR AIR CONDITIONING UNIT. IN THIS REGARD, THE OIC ALSO APPRECIATES THE POST'S PATIENCE AND IT IS HOPED THAT REPLACEMENT OF THE ABOVE ITEMS WILL CURE THE PROBLEMS.

3. THIS OFFICE HAS LOCATED AND PURCHASED LOCALLY A REPLACEMENT CHRYSLER COMPRESSOR MAGNETIC CONTACTOR AND RBM RELAY CONTROL. IN VIEW OF THE URGENCY, IT IS THEREFORE REQUESTED THAT SY NOT PURCHASE THESE TWO ITEMS SINCE THEY WILL BE POUCHED TO TAIPEI ON AUGUST 17. ALSO, THIS OFFICE WAS ADVISED ON AUGUST 15 THAT THE SEABEES HAD ON AUGUST 12 EXAMINED THE COMPRESSOR MAGNETIC CONTACTOR AND FOUND THE CONTACTS TO BE BADLY BURNED AND OBVIOUSLY IN BAD CONDITION. IT CAN THEREFORE BE REASONABLY PRESUMED THAT THIS COMPONENT PROBABLY IS A SOURCE OF TROUBLE.

4. ON AUGUST 2 THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, MR. WASKA, ADVISED THE OIC OF TEMPERATURE REGULATION PROBLEMS AND EXCESSIVE HUMIDITY WITHIN THE ACR. THE HUMIDITY PROBLEM APPEARS TO STEM FROM THE LACK OF PARENT ROOM AIR CONDITIONING, BUT WAS SOLVED TO SOME DEGREE BY THE OIC BY REMOVING THE AC INTAKE FROM THE ACR AND DUMPING THE COOL AIR DIRECTLY INTO THE PARENT ROOM. THIS TECHNIQUE PERFORMED ONLY marginally SINCE THE AC WAS

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OPERATING INTERMITTENTLY. MR. WASKA WAS ADVISED THAT EXCLUSIVE OF THE COMPRESSOR PROBLEM, THE MAJOR SOURCE OF IMPROPER TEMPERATURE REGULATION IS DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE TWO SILENCER PANELS BEING INSTALLED CONTIGUOUSLY; IT DOES NOT PERMIT THE PROPER EXCHANGE OF AIR THROUGHOUT THE ACR. HE WAS ADVISED ON AUGUST 3 THAT MAJOR ACR AND PARENT ROOM MODIFICATIONS ARE NECESSARY AND WILL BE SCHEDULED AS AN RTC/MANILA TEAM EFFORT PROJECT DURING THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR--BUT NOT WITHIN THE NEXT FOUR MONTHS BECAUSE OF OTHER PRESSING REGIONAL PROJECTS.

5. FOR TAIPEI: AT YOUR CONVENIENCE, IT WILL BE APPRECIATED IF YOU WOULD ADVISE BY MEMORANDUM FROM YOUR RECORDS OR FROM THE SEABEES FILES THE DATES OF THE OCCASIONS WITHIN THE LAST TWO MONTHS THEY SERVICED THE AIR CONDITIONER AND THE DIAGNOSIS AND WORK PERFORMED ON EACH OCCASION. THIS INFORMATION MAY PROVE TO BE STATISTICALLY VALUABLE IN RESOLVING POSSIBLE FUTURE PROBLEMS WITH YOUR AIR CONDITONER. SINCE TAIPEI HAS ADVISED THAT THE AFOREMENTIONED PARTS, SPECIFICALLY THE MAGNETIC CONTACTOR, IS NOT AVAILABLE

IN TAIWAN, IT WILL BE HELPFUL TO KNOW IF THEY HAVE IN
FACT, PREVIOUSLY REPLACED THIS UNIT IN ONE OF THEIR
TWENTY SERVICE CALLS.
CROSS

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